
MEMO

TO: BLUE RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MR. RYAN PEYTON, SUPERINTENDENT

FROM: SUNNY MCMURRY, PRINCIPAL, RUTH M. SCHNEIDER ELEMENTARY

DATE: 5/8/26

RE: MAY 2026 PRINCIPAL REPORT

Official Retirement

It is bittersweet to announce Mary Diener's "official" retirement! Mary has served our district in a multitude of ways over the past six years. She initially began during COVID as an interim BRHS principal. She then supported Mr. Easter during the transition and while finding an Assistant Principal. Following that, she supported Mr. Peyton as he spent time learning the role of Superintendent. This year, she has been a huge help to me as I learned the role of Principal at Schneider. Mary's experiences as a teacher and long-time administrator have been invaluable in shaping not only students in our schools, but also the adults she leads and interacts with daily. We will miss her greatly! Please join us to celebrate her on Thursday, May 21 from 2:00-4:00 pm at Woodlawn Country Club!



Third Grade Transition Up Day

Our third graders will travel to Mansfield for their 3rd grade Transition Up Day on May 15. Students are excited to learn more about their new school! Thank you to Mr. Huddleston and Mrs. Kolross for making this happen!

MEMO

Partnership with ROE 17

We are excited to align our goals for Early Release days with best practice through our partnership with the ROE. Stacie France has been invaluable as a thought partner, identifying areas where Schneider can maximize growth. On Friday, May 8, Stacie spent the day at Schneider talking with staff, visiting classrooms and identifying opportunities to help us kick off our communities of practice next year during our early release days.

Internal Schneider IEP Transition Meetings

When students with IEP transition from Schneider to BRIJH, we typically hold a transition meeting to help staff in Mansfield better understand the support we currently have in place. However, our students within Schneider also benefit from these conversations. On May 7, Schneider staff held internal transition meetings with both the current classroom teacher & case manager and next year's classroom teacher & case manager (if different) for 8 of our students with higher needs. This allowed us to identify specific focus areas for support and allowed an uninterrupted time for all adults to talk through ideas that worked this year in order to continue to implement those next year.

Senior Walkthrough

Celebrate our seniors on Friday, May 15! Seniors will be at the Schneider doors ready to go at 10:05. Because third graders will be going to Mansfield that morning, we will route our seniors backwards from years past. We can have the graduates go up the stairs to the third grade area first, and once they pass through the upstairs hallway, the third graders can then get ready to board their bus. Seniors would then go down the downstairs hall, and travel to the PreK/K wing last. Board members are welcome to join us in congratulating our graduates!

Teacher Appreciation Week

Thank you to PIE, our community and our Blue Ridge families for all the love during Teacher Appreciation Week!



MEMO

Behavior Incentive

We continue to monitor behaviors and decided to incentivize great behavior for the first two weeks of May. Any grade levels that went a full week with 10 or less referrals (minor or major) earned Popsicles with the Principals.

Instructional Leadership Team

Our Building ILT reviewed student handbooks and updated and aligned language to current practices and legal guidance. Our team has also worked hard to refine our master schedule for next year. We are excited that many of our scheduling goals have been met! Teachers voted to have a rotation of specials classes. Every student will rotate through guidance, art and music, and PE will still take place every day. We also spent time reviewing and discussing our recent 5Essentials Survey data (more information to come in June).

Upcoming Events:

May

- 5/1- Pre-K Parent Conferences
- 5/11- P.I.E. Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 5/15- Third Grade Transition Up Day
- 5/20- Board Meeting, HS Library 7:00 p.m.
- 5/20- Last full day for PreK/ECSE and K-12, 2:20 Early Dismissal, End of 4th Quarter
- 5/21- Teacher Institute
- 5/25- Memorial Day-NO SCHOOL

Dates for Next Year:

- Pre-K Screenings: July 30, 31
- In Person Registration: Thursday, August 6
- K Jump Start: Week of August 10-13
- Popsicles with the Principals: August 13, 6-7 pm
- Class Lists Released: Friday, August 14
- First Knight: Monday, August 17 5:30-7:00 (5:30-6:00 K only)
- First Day of School: Wednesday, August 19